

THE CONTRIBUTION OF STUDENTS TEAM ACHIEVEMENT DIVISION (STAD) AND MOTIVATION TOWARDS WRITING COMPARISON AND CONTRAST TEXT OF THE FIRST SEMESTER MANAGEMENT STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITY MUHAMMADIYAH OF METRO

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Abstract : The purpose of the present study is to explore the positive effects of Student Teams Achievement Division (STAD) on other important factors such as students' motivation. STAD was used with thirty students and was compared to thirty management students who worked in groups lacking the key components of STAD. Both groups completed pretest and posttest and responded in motivational questionnaire which measured changes in exposure to writing skill in English. The findings showed that (1) there was a significant progress within each group, (2) there was also significant mean difference between the experimental and control group with the contribution of the STAD approach to students' motivation and to writing achievement.

Keywords: Student Teams Achievement Division (STAD), Motivation and Writing Skill

INTRODUCTION

Considering the importance of English as an international language used for communication among countries, Indonesian government provides students with English subject since primary school until university. The process of teaching English at school divided into four skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Dealing with the teaching and learning, a non treatment writing is assumed that students learn to write a language by studying its vocabulary, grammar and sentence structure, not by actually writing it. Since a non treatment writing is always done simultaneously, it was observed that the students' writing proficiency average scores are not what the teacher expected. It was assumed that

using various techniques may avoid the students' ignorance in writing activities.

The students are often able to speak successfully, despite making mistakes, whereas, in writing, mistakes maybe regarded as unacceptable, even if the message is communicated. It shows that writing is a complicated ability. Davies (1998:5) supported this idea by stating writing is not simply speech written down on a sheet of paper, learning how to write in English is important for many learners. The ability to produce error-free writing is desirable, but the students can improve it by practicing a lot and focusing on communication and self-expression.

The researcher found management students at University Muhammadiyah of Metro, many of

her students disliked writing, especially in English. When they were faced with a writing task, most students reacted with comments like, "oh no not again" or "this is so boring". A teacher who does not try to see the real message behind these comments could easily become discouraged. Eventually, both the teacher and the students will hate writing. To prevent this, the teacher should consider what students actually mean when they say "boring", and the possibility that students are actually expressing their insecurity and lack of confidence in completing the task.

While students write composition in English, the experience can easily become overwhelming when students have lack of vocabulary, grammar, and content knowledge. These frustrating writing experiences can result in decreased motivation to write in English—a truly unfortunate consequence considering the importance of writing for most of our students. Nurturing students' motivation to write, therefore, should be an essential part of L2 writing instruction.

Being aware of such difficult condition above, the researcher wishes to change it and take the condition to betterment. Student Team Achievement Division (STAD), as a part of Cooperative Learning, can be a suggestion dealing with this problem. Davis (1999: 7) thought that Cooperative Learning is helpful when the students are trying to learn information and concepts and preparing for class discussion and tests. It can be beneficial in many ways such as; as a source of encouragement when the students find their motivation to study is slipping. Felder and Brent

(2001:10) added, for reluctant students, they will find it easier to ask a question in a small group. The students will become more committed to study because the group members are depending on each presentation and participation. Cooperative Learning may bring up ideas which never considered. The students can learn valuable new study habits from the other group members, and many more.

Comparison and contrast text is rather complicated due to the complex requirement to construct the text. After all, comparison and contrast is more qualified in content. Hence, the choice of comparison and contrast as the genre taught using STAD is considered as an eligible one. In short, in this study the writer would investigate the influence of STAD to teach comparison and contrast writing to the management students at University Muhammadiyah of Metro.

Concept of Writing

Doing writing is doing a number of activities that are relate to each other such as the process of setting goals, generating ideas, making a draft, and so on. These activities have to be managed well to achieve the goal of writing. These activities need a lot of attention because they are not easy to do. In every steps of writing, the students will spend a lot of time to brainstorm the ideas, time to draft a piece of writing, review it, re-drafting, and so on. Writing cannot be done in a few of time.

Concept of Teaching Writing

Actually, writing a paragraph or an essay is the process of thinking. Once we begin to write, we think

how to set goals, generate ideas, organize information, select appropriate language, make a draft, read and review what we have write, and the last revise and edit it. The more we think about how we do writing, the more difficult it becomes. But for EFL students the more they think, the more they trapped in doubt to begin writing. That is why the writer asked the students to write without paying any attention to the structure in the first step of writing or free-writing.

Concept of Comparison and contrast Text

The researcher plans to do the research related to comparison and contrast text. Comparison and contrast text has been learnt since the first semester of X grade at senior high school, and according to syllabus it will be discussed as a material subject management students at University Muhammadiyah of Metro.

Compare and contrast paragraphs are written to expose similarities and differences of two places, countries, people, friends, items, objects or events. When comparing two things, the writer emphasizes the similarities between the things compared; however, when contrasting, the writer mentions about the differences between them. The topic should be either compared or contrasted. The best way to start a compare and contrast paragraph is to choose two related items and clarify what is precisely being compared. It is also possible to give a list of selected criteria that will be used to make the comparison. Another way of organizing a comparison is not according to supporting details that are similar, but according to subtopic. (A

subtopic is a main example, or main supporting idea, that illustrates the topic sentence of a paragraph.

Concept of Student-Team Achievement Division (STAD)

From Cooperative Learning approach that the researcher will use in her research, the researcher plans to use Student-Team Achievement Division (STAD). In STAD, teams comprise four or five students who stand for a class-section of the class in terms of academic performances, sex and race or ethnicity. The major function of the team is to ascertain that all team members to do well on the quizzes. After the teacher's instruction, the team meets to study worksheets or other materials. Most often, the study involves students discussing problems together, comparing answers and correcting any misconceptions if teammates makes mistakes (Slavin, cited in Trianto, 2009)

Each student's grade was based on his or her own score on the quiz. But, at the same time, each student could contribute to a group score by making improvements. Each student's contribution to their group's score was based on how well they did on the quiz compared to their own average score on past quizzes. Thus, a relatively low achiever can contribute as much to their team as a high achiever without doing as well on the quiz as their higher-achieving teammate. The group score was used to determine which groups receive rewards.

In STAD, the preparation stage was the operation before the teacher started to teach one lesson; at this stage the teacher manage the classroom first. While operating classroom management, the teacher

needs to group students, arranges the seat, and assign roles within each group (Trianto, 2009:9).

Motivation

Classroom learning environment plays important role in increasing students' motivation. There are many studies about this conducted in different countries. These reviews indicated that most of the studies investigated the nature of classroom learning environments using the perceptual measures approach in which teachers' and students' perceptions toward their classroom learning environments were measured using a survey-type instrument.

Wong and Chen (2009:67) also stated other factors that affected students' motivation in language learning. For example, individual differences, characteristics of the learners such as attitude, language anxiety, self-confidence, intelligence, field-independence and many other personal variables; the background of the learners, including academic grade, language examination grades, gender and home language. Research also suggested that a good classroom environment would enhance students' motivation in language learning.

METHOD

In this study, an experimental research is used. The researcher divided the students into two groups; experimental group used student-team achievement division (STAD) and control group (the group which is applied to non treatment approach). For this reason, factorial design method is used. The researcher used factorial design to study the independent and simultaneous effects of two or more

independent treatment variables on an outcome (Creswell, 2005).

The diagram of factorial design is as follows:

Experimental	R	O ₁	X ₁	Y ₁	O ₂
Control	R	O ₁	X ₂	Y ₁	O ₂
Experimental	R	O ₁	X ₁	Y ₂	O ₂
Control	R	O ₁	X ₂	Y ₂	O ₂
Experimental	R	O ₁	X ₁	Y ₃	O ₂
Control	R	O ₁	X ₂	Y ₃	O ₂

(Mc. Millan, J. H & Schumacher, S. 2010)

Where:

R = Random

O₁ = Pretest

O₂ = Posttest

X₁ = STAD approach
Non treatment

X₂ = approach

Y₁ = High Motivation

Y₂ = Middle Motivation

Y₃ = Low Motivation

This design related can be illustrated as follows:

	Group Types	
	STAD (Approach) X ₁	Non Treatment (Approach) X ₂
Motivation	High Midle Low	

The population of this study was the first years of even semester registered in academic year 2012/2013. There were 120 students in the population. They were class A,B,C,D. In this study, the researcher used cluster random sample. The sample to be used is the management students at University

Muhammadiyah of Metro. Two classes were created in which one class becomes control class and another class to be experimental class. There were 30 students for experimental group, that was taught writing skill using student-team achievement division (STAD), and 30 students was grouped into a control group who was taught using no treatment approach. In selecting the students the researcher used the lottery system. She wrote the students' names on small pieces of paper and rolled them up. Then, the researcher took randomly 6 papers from each class.

Before doing the real study, the instruments were tried out to the accountancy students at University Muhammadiyah of Metro to find out how easy or difficult the instrument. In this research the instrument was tested to the 30 accountancy students at University Muhammadiyah of Metro in the academic year 2012/2013.

Trianto (2007:44) states that some teaching procedures using STAD are:

1. Preparing
Have teammates move their desk together or move team tables.
2. Teaching
The teacher explains the material
3. Having the students do the task
Teacher gives worksheet to each group, and then asks the students to discuss the tasks with their peers. The teacher should emphasize each group that they must learn the subject until all the members master the material. They should help each other. The teacher monitors each group while doing the task.
4. Giving the test
Then, the teacher asks the students to move on their chairs

and an individual test is distributed to them. The teacher emphasizes the students do not help each other.

5. Summing the scores

The teacher sums the students' individual test score in front of the class

The researcher used *tests* and *questionnaire* as instruments for the current research. *Writing skill test* was used as substantial part of the experiment. The writing competence test was conducted as a *pretest* that is given in order to know the standard mastery of the sample students' writing ability before the experiment.

At the end of the experiment, the researcher gave the students a *posttest*. The aim of this test was to measure students' achievement at the end of the instructions, it was in the form of writing skill test.

In this experiment, projective test of writing competence in form of writing composition was used for pretest and posttest. This test asked the students to write a simple comparison and contrast text consist of 200 – 250 words based on the topic given in 60 minutes (Appendix K). This writing text was used to measure students' achievement.

In order to understand the students' motivation toward learning English before and after the study, a questionnaire containing 18 items is developed by the researcher, adapted from Liang (2002).

FINDINGS

The results of the test were presented in the form of scores. The scoring system used range from 10 to 100. The highest writing score in the pretest of the experimental group was 77.50, the lowest score was 66.50, and the mean score was 70.70. The highest writing score in the posttest

of the experimental group was 89.50, the lowest score was 71.00, and the mean score was 79.07. While in the control group, the highest writing score of the pretest was 76.50, the lowest score was 68.00, and the mean score was 71.79. The highest writing score in the posttest was 85.50, the lowest score was 69.50, and the mean score was 73.85. Table 3 shows the score distribution of students' writing achievement.

Table 1
The Score Distribution of
Students' Writing Achievement

Scores							
Group	Pretest			Posttest			Mean Gain
	Lowest	Highest	Mean	Lowest	Highest	Mean	
Experimental	66.50	77.50	70.70	71.00	89.5	79.07	74.89
Control	68.00	76.50	71.97	69.50	85.50	73.85	72.91

The Kolmogorov-Smornov test of the pretest result of the writing achievement of the experimental group showed that significance was 0.702. Since 0.702 is higher than 0.05, so it could be concluded that the data obtained were considered normal .

The results of the motivation questionnaire were presented in the form of scores. The highest motivation score of the experimental group was 3.83, the lowest score was 2.11 , and the mean score was 2.79. There were 5 students in the high motivation category, 17 students in the middle motivation category and 8 students in the low motivation category. The highest motivation

score of the control group was 3.78, the lowest score was 2.06, and the mean score was 2.86. There were 7 students in the high motivation category, 18 students in the middle motivation category, and 6 students in the low motivation category. Table 4 shows the score distribution of students' motivation. The Kolmogorov-Smornov test of the result of the motivation questionnaire of the experimental group showed that significance was 0.750. Since 0.750 is higher than 0.05, so it could be concluded that the data obtained were considered normal .

Based on the data analysis, the students' writing achievements taught using student-team achievement division (STAD) approach have a significant increase. It was indicated that teaching writing using student-team achievement division (STAD) gives a significant difference on the students' writing achievements than non treatment method. It can be seen that there is a progress achieved by high motivation students, middle motivation students and low motivation students. The different achievement might only be caused by different teaching techniques used in the experiment and control group. The experiment group was taught using the student-team achievement division (STAD), whereas the control group was taught using the non treatment approach.

DISCUSSION

First, from the t-test analysis of the students' posttest scores in the experimental and control group that the p-output (0.021) was lower than mean significant difference at the 0.005 level. It was interpreted that the teaching of writing using student-

team achievement division (STAD) approach is effectively applied in one of the groups. Or it can be interpreted that there was a significant difference between the teachings of writing using student-team achievement division (STAD) and nontreatment approach. It means that the null hypotheses is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted.

Second, the t-test analysis of the students' writing achievements who are in high and low motivation taught using student-team achievement division (STAD). From the statistic calculation using independent sample test was found the p-output (0.597). It means that the p-output was higher than the mean significant difference at the 0.05 level. It can be interpreted that the approach which was applied to develop the students' writing achievements effective to be taught in both groups. Or can be interpreted that there is no significant difference between teaching writing using student-team achievement division (STAD) towards high and low motivation. It means that the null hypotheses is accepted and the alternative hypotheses is rejected.

Third, the t-test analysis of the students' writing achievements who are in high and middle motivation taught using student-team achievement division (STAD). From the statistic calculation using independent sample test was found the p-output 0.099. It means that the p-output was higher than the mean significant difference at the 0.005 level. It can be interpreted that the approach which was applied to develop the students' writing achievements effective to be taught in both groups of students' motivation level or in other words, it

can be interpreted that the teaching writing using student-team achievement division (STAD) does not have a significant difference to the students who are in high and middle motivation.

Fourth, the t-test analysis of the students' writing achievements who are in high motivation taught using student-team achievement division (STAD) and non treatment approach. From the statistic calculation using independent sample test was found the p-output 0.137. It means that the p-output was higher than the mean significant difference at the 0.005 level. It can be interpreted that the approach which was applied to develop the students' writing achievements effective to be taught in both groups of students' motivation level or in other words, it can be interpreted that the teaching writing using student-team achievement division (STAD) does not have a significant difference to the students who are in high and middle motivation.

Fifth, the t-test analysis of the students' writing achievements who are in high motivation taught using student-team achievement division (STAD) approach and low motivation taught using nontreatment approach. From the statistic calculation using independent sample test was found the p-output 0.004. It means that the p-output was lower than the mean significant difference at the 0.005 level. It was interpreted that the teaching of writing using student-team achievement division (STAD) approach is effectively applied in one of the groups. Or it can be interpreted that there was a significant difference between the teachings of writing using student-team achievement division (STAD) and non treatment approach.

Sixth, the t-test analysis of the students' writing achievements who are in high motivation taught using student-team achievement division (STAD) approach and middle motivation taught using non treatment approach. From the statistic calculation using independent sample test was found the p-output 0.320. It means that the p-output was higher than the mean significant difference at the 0.005 level. It can be interpreted that the approach which was applied to develop the students' writing achievements effective to be taught in a certain group. It is interpreted that a significant difference was found between teaching writing using student-team achievement division (STAD) to the students who are in high motivation and those who are in middle motivation taught using non treatment approach.

This finding was relevant to the research done by Sugiantoro (2009) that student-team achievement division (STAD) is effective to the improvement of students' listening and reading achievement in all level achievers; high, medium and low. In line with that Lin (1998) found that STAD was more effective in raising the students' English academic achievement, motivational beliefs and learning strategies than the traditional teaching method, and another study conducted by Moryadee (2001), said the students who studied through STAD have a higher English Learning Achievement after the treatment and a higher self-efficacy than those students who studied through non treatment method.

Statistically, there is strong evidence that the students' writing achievement from pretest and posttest in both group increased as

explained in the findings. However, the increases of writing achievement mean score in the experimental group students are found more significant than the control group students. The increases of writing achievement in the experimental group are assumed because the students were exposed regularly to read and write comparison and contrast text as much as possible, which led them to the improvement of their writing achievement. It can be inferred that STAD method as an alternative methods that scientifically had given a significant contribution in increasing students writing achievement.

In addition, most participants with all levels of motivation in writing and writing achievement had more opportunities to practice their writing abilities in their group through STAD method since this method should be provided by enough material for teaching learning activities. The students became autonomous in their classroom in which they must made decisions, take actions, and manage conflicts to complete group task, and the teacher served as a consultant and a facilitator in their group learning process.

Furthermore, STAD method is proven not only can increase students' achievement for high achievers and high motivation students but also medium and low achievers. This can be seen from the distribution of pretest and posttest in writing achievement in which low achievers and low motivation students can increase their writing achievement. The writer assumes that low-medium achiever and low-middle motivation students could get good score because they were inspired, and supported by their advance group mates, who wanted

their group get good score in writing. Then, high achiever and high motivation students got more chances to apply what they have already known by tutoring their peers, and eventually their horizon was broaden through discussion with other team members.

The first meeting when she taught in the experimental group, the writer got some problems. First, the low achievers were confused about what they were supposed to do, therefore they only waited and relied on their task on high achievers. The second problem was the students' lack of cooperation with another. The high achievers still individualist in group, they just did the task by themselves and did not tutoring their peers. The last problem, some of the students complained to her that they wanted her to change the member. The reasons were they felt difficult to mingle with their members in understanding the material since they were grouped with different friends and different level of achievement and motivation.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of data analysis and interpretations, seven conclusions are presented. First, there is any significant difference in average score in writing skill between the students who are taught using student-team achievement division (STAD) and non treatment approach, students made a progress in writing achievement due to the application of the student-team achievement division (STAD) during the process of teaching and learning activities. Second, students who are taught using student-team achievement division (STAD) for

greater score in writing achievement than students who are taught using non treatment approach. Third, there is any significant difference in average score in writing skill between students' who are in high and middle motivation after being taught comparison and contrast text using student-team achievement division (STAD). Fourth, there is a significant difference in average score in writing skill between students' who are in high motivation after being taught comparison and contrast text using student-team achievement division (STAD) and non treatment approach. Fifth, there is a significant difference in average score in writing skill between students who are in high and low motivation after being taught comparison and contrast text using student-team achievement division (STAD) and non treatment approach. Sixth, there is a significant difference in average score in writing skill between students who are in high and middle motivation after being taught comparison and contrast text using student-team achievement division (STAD) and non treatment approach.

SUGGESTIONS

The findings of this study encouraged the writer to suggest to the English lecturers to apply many kinds of teaching strategies in helping the students learn English, especially to develop the students' writing skill. Through this research, it can be an alternative teaching approach since it has shown that the teaching of writing skill using STAD can develop the students' writing skill achievement.

In teaching and learning process in the classroom, teacher's creativities in applying various

teaching strategies are really required to avoid the students' ignorance in learning process since the success of teaching and learning processes involves many aspects. Those aspects are teacher's teaching strategies, students' active participation, interesting learning materials and many other factors.

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